

**§ 46000-6. Land acquisition****(a) In general****(1) Priority to conservation easements**

In acquiring lands or interest in lands under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to such acquisitions in the form of conservation easements.

**(2) Private lands**

The Secretary is authorized to acquire privately held lands or interest in lands within the boundaries of the Acquisition Planning District only from a willing seller through donation, exchange, or purchase.

**(3) County lands**

The Secretary is authorized to acquire county lands or interest in lands within the boundaries of the Acquisition Planning District only with the consent of the county through donation, exchange, or purchase.

**(4) State lands****(A) In general**

The Secretary is authorized to acquire lands or interest in lands owned by the State of Arizona located within the boundaries of the Acquisition Planning District only with the consent of the State and in accordance with State law, by donation, exchange, or purchase.

**(B) Consideration**

As consideration for the acquisitions by the United States of lands or interest in lands under this paragraph, the Secretary shall pay fair market value for such lands or shall convey to the State of Arizona all or some interest in Federal lands (including buildings and other improvements on such lands or other Federal property other than real property) or any other asset of equal value within the State of Arizona.

**(C) Transfer of jurisdiction**

All Federal agencies are authorized to transfer jurisdiction of Federal lands or interest in lands (including buildings and other improvements on such lands or other Federal property other than real property) or any other asset within the State of Arizona to the Bureau of Land Management for the purpose of acquiring lands or interest in lands as provided for in this paragraph.

**(b) Management of acquired lands**

Lands acquired under this section shall, upon acquisition, become part of the Conservation Area and shall be administered as part of the Conservation Area. These lands shall be managed in accordance with this subchapter, other applicable laws, and the management plan.

(Pub. L. 106-538, §7, Dec. 6, 2000, 114 Stat. 2567.)

## LAND EXCHANGE AND CONSERVATION IN ARIZONA

For provisions relating to land exchange and conservation in southeastern Arizona, see section 539p of this title.

**§ 46000-7. Reports to Congress****(a) Protection of certain lands**

Not later than 2 years after December 6, 2000, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report

describing the most effective measures to protect the lands north of the Acquisition Planning District within the Rincon Valley, Colossal Cave area, and Agua Verde Creek corridor north of Interstate 10 to provide an ecological link to Saguaro National Park and the Rincon Mountains and contribute to local government conservation priorities.

**(b) Implementation of this subchapter**

Not later than 5 years after December 6, 2000, and at least at the end of every 10-year period thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the implementation of this subchapter, the condition of the resources and values of the Conservation Area, and the progress of the Secretary in achieving the purposes for which the Conservation Area is established as set forth in section 46000-3(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 106-538, §8, Dec. 6, 2000, 114 Stat. 2568.)

## SUBCHAPTER CXXVII—BLACK ROCK DESERT-HIGH ROCK CANYON EMIGRANT TRAILS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

**§ 46000pp. Findings**

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The areas of northwestern Nevada known as the Black Rock Desert and High Rock Canyon contain and surround the last nationally significant, untouched segments of the historic California emigrant Trails,<sup>1</sup> including wagon ruts, historic inscriptions, and a wilderness landscape largely unchanged since the days of the pioneers.

(2) The relative absence of development in the Black Rock Desert and high<sup>2</sup> Rock Canyon areas from emigrant times to the present day offers a unique opportunity to capture the terrain, sights, and conditions of the overland trails as they were experienced by the emigrants and to make available to both present and future generations of Americans the opportunity of experiencing emigrant conditions in an unaltered setting.

(3) The Black Rock Desert and High Rock Canyon areas are unique segments of the Northern Great Basin and contain broad representation of the Great Basin's land forms and plant and animal species, including golden eagles and other birds of prey, sage grouse, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep, free roaming horses and burros, threatened fish and sensitive plants.

(4) The Black Rock-High Rock region contains a number of cultural and natural resources that have been declared eligible for National Historic Landmark and Natural Landmark status, including a portion of the 1843-44 John Charles Fremont exploration route, the site of the death of Peter Lassen, early military facilities, and examples of early homesteading and mining.

(5) The archeological, paleontological, and geographical resources of the Black Rock-High Rock region include numerous prehistoric and historic Native American sites, woolly mam-

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should not be capitalized.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. Probably should be capitalized.